

65

Sidon, Syria -

Oct. 8, 1934.

Dear Mr. Spear,

We were greatly saddened to hear of your recent sorrow, and our heartfelt sympathies go out to you and your dear ones. Our petitions to Him in whose care we all trust are that your grief may be assuaged.

In loving remembrance,
Howard and Marion Cameron Lichty.

57

My dear Mr. Speer

Not many moments have you and yours been out of my mind since the shock that came in Saturday's morning paper.

It seems so dreadful, and so un-

Comfort from you
In deepest sympathy
Pam R. Lennie

Tyrene - Pa
Sep 17, 1934

necessary - But
that you and all
you've stricken over
may have the
faith, the strength
comfort and peace
that are yours
from the Fa-
ther's risk stone
is the prayer of
an old true friend
who has so often
received risk

In
Deepest
Sympathy

Whatever comfort
 ~ there may be
In deep and ~
 friendly sympathy,
Comes now to ease
 the cross you bear
From hearts that
 understand and care.

Dear Dr. & Mrs. Speer

017

I want, with your many other friends from 156 to extend my sincerest sympathy in this your hour of sadness.

May our divine Saviour bring you the peace and comfort that must come to you now.

Sincerely
Phyllis M. Lenkey.

ack,

1 Pauline Bonhvard
Leonia, New Jersey

Dear dear Mrs Speer,

How very very close the invisible
world must be to you today!

May our Father's abiding Presence
~~that~~ has been with you all these
years to strengthen and inspire
all who love you, bring you joy

in the thought of all that Eliot
has been and has done, and bring
you Peace and Courage for the
days ahead.

I keep thinking of the darling baby
I used to come to see bathed in the
old Englewood house, and then of the
splendid Christian ^{man} that I talked with
at the girls Northfield Conference this June!

all my love goes out to you
Sunday, Sept. 16

Sleumer Cory Leiper

Sept. 20th.



Pittsburgh
Sterling-2285

Hartwood
Little Pine Creek Road



Sharpsburg
Pennsylvania

my dear Mrs. Speer:
How my heart
aches for you & your husband.
This terrible tragedy to happen
to you, your splendid son
whose life was counting
for such fine things so
worth while. My dear friend,
I know what a great
sorrow this must be for
you to bear and my

This awful day a sorrow.

Please accept my heartfelt
sympathy and love.

affectionately

Mary Thine Lawrence
— — —

I don't get to N.Y. often but
will hope to see you when I do.
I treasure the memory of your visit.

hope & prayer is that god
will give you the needed
courage & strength as the
day pass. your life is so
close to His that I know
you will find what you
need. and your comfort will
be in the heritage of his
life & that you had the great
pleasure of his life as your
son.

I dined with Marnie
on Hamilton D. day and
we talked at length of you &

ack

Lincoln University, Pa
September 22, 1934

Dear Emma Bailey Speer;

Day
by day our loving thoughts
and prayers have been
going out to you and
up to the Father for you.
It is all that we have
been able to do as you
found yourselves in the
midst of this strange,
this incredible experience.
Our first-born's life

there are left on every side
young men who seem to have
no place in the scheme of things
or by low living and thinking
have made themselves unfit for
a place.

Thank God you know him
whom you have believed, that
strengthening grace in Christ
Jesus is yours!

With love,

Mary Fleming Labaree

on earth was ended so
in a flash we could
not be with him, but
the ending was not
linked up with the
sad mystery of violence
and an insane
mind tethered in a
lurching body.

Of course the baffling
aspect of the mystery
is why Elliot's vigorous
able Christ-dedicated
earth-life should be
brought to a close
when the earth has
so few of these, when

619

~~Miss~~ Mary Clementine Lyman.

157 Lyman Place
Englewood, N.J.

079

With deep and sincere
sympathy.

Dwr. + Mrs. Geo. L. Seouard,

126 Hawthorne

Boston



When hearts
are full
There are no words
to say
May God enfold you
In His Love today

THE BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS
OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U. S. A.
156 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK

CBM:AMW

September 20, 1934.

TO ALL OUR FELLOW-WORKERS ON THE FIELD

Dear Friends:

We realize that you have been shocked and saddened by the tragic news of the assassination of Rev. Elliott Speer, older son of Dr. and Mrs. Robert E. Speer. Since accounts of the tragedy are so fragmentary in the far-away press it seems wise and kindly to tell you the story so far as it is known and to reassure you of the grace of God which supports those who have experienced the sorrow.

On Friday evening, September 14th, shortly after his return from summer vacation, and before the opening of the Mount Hermon School near East Northfield, Massachusetts, of which he was Headmaster, Rev. Elliott Speer was in his study at his home at about 8:30 in the evening. Some one fired a heavily-loaded shotgun through a window of the study directly at him. Mrs. Speer and the three children were in other parts of the home. She heard the noise and came at once only to find her husband so badly wounded that before other aid could reach the house he passed away.

Dr. Robert E. Speer was at his summer home in Lakeville, Connecticut, on his annual month of vacation which he takes in September. Word was gotten to him at once. His younger son was at home and with Dr. and Mrs. Speer drove to East Northfield where they arrived about four o'clock Saturday morning. Since that time, of course, the American members of the family have been together. By a good providence Mrs. Elliott Speer's father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Welles, were visiting them at the time and were in the house. Other friends arrived quickly but nothing could be done to correct the tragic evil.

A brief funeral service was held in the home at Mount Hermon at four o'clock on Sunday afternoon, September 16th, after which the family came to the family burying-ground at Englewood, New Jersey, for the interment. They then returned to Lakeville, Connecticut, where they will be for the present, going later to Mount Hermon for final adjustments there.

The news reached our offices on Saturday morning, the 15th, and of course influenced all that we did during the day. We closed the offices at 11:30 for a half hour of prayer in the Assembly Room. On Monday, the 17th, the first meeting of the Board for the season occurred, and was naturally under the spell of this great sorrow. It has been difficult to think of anything else. Our papers have given much attention to it.

The crime itself is utterly baffling. There is absolutely no clew thus far to the identity of the assassin or the reason for the crime. Ample marks have been found to indicate that it was deliberate murder, but its cause is a complete mystery. Mr. Speer was held in high and affectionate esteem by his colleagues and his students. Besides being Headmaster of the Mount Hermon School, he was Chairman of the Administrative Committee of The Northfield Schools, which embrace both the Mount Hermon School for boys and the Northfield Seminary for girls, and carried large

responsibilities in many lines. Many suggestions have been offered as to a possible reason for the attack, but investigation shows that each suggestion thus far is unsupported. The police authorities of the State of Massachusetts seem to be giving as thorough care to the matter as could be asked, and friends of the family are doing their utmost to aid in the investigation. It is clear that until some light is thrown on the crime there will be a sense of fear and dread both in the family and among the authorities of the Mount Hermon School. It cannot be known if this was one single crime or if there is some malice or mania which may lead to another. Up to this time there is nothing that points to the perpetrator of the deed or gives any explanation of it. Mr. Speer had prepared his opening address for the new year of the Mount Hermon School and it was read to the boys when the session opened on the 18th. They are deeply moved and grieved by his death.

You need not be told that Dr. Speer and his family, including Mrs. Elliott Speer, are bearing this sorrow as Christians of long and deep experience might bear it. The grace of God has not failed them, and though they are mystified and baffled by it they feel, as Dr. Speer has said, that "the only and adequate light is to think of what God allowed to happen in the life of His own dear Son and to be sure that even out of the deepest evil He can bring good." In our prayer service here in the building accent was laid on Romans 8:28 with its assurance that all things work together for good to them that love God. We sang the little hymn, "Near to the Heart of God," which many of you know was written in an hour of staggering sorrow. We would be utterly orphaned if there were no Father over this tragedy, and yet we are almost stunned when we face it as a fact.

There is a large current of sympathy running to Dr. and Mrs. Speer, the younger son William and Mrs. Elliott Speer and her children, and you may be sure that they are being strengthened by it. Our hearts go out to Dr. Speer's daughters, Miss Margaret Speer at Yenching Woman's College, Peiping, China, and Mrs. Constance Speer Barbour in London, England, whose distance will deepen their distress.

The Board placed on its Minutes this action, though its feelings cannot be put into words:

"The Board responds in personal grief to the sorrow that has befallen its beloved Senior Secretary in the tragic death of his son, the Rev. Elliott Speer, on September 14th. It assures Dr. and Mrs. Speer of its fellowship with them in this difficult hour, commending them to that grace of God to which their long Christian service has accustomed them and which will not now fail them. All the members of the Board would rejoice to find some effective method of manifesting their love and sympathy to the dear friends and the son William in America, to the daughter in China, so closely related to the Board, and to the daughter in England. We have shared in the family's pride in the son and his Christian character and service and we share therefore in the sorrow of this early transfer from his important earthly work to other service, even though we know him to be in safer and wiser hands than ours. Our faith in an overruling love of God and our assurance of His wider purposes which take up into themselves even the wrongs that men do and suffer can alone make this unexplained and ruinous tragedy endurable. Our thoughts include the great force of missionaries from all Churches who will be touched and solemnized by knowledge of the deep valley through which the household, so beloved among them, must go and we join their petition for comfort and peace. The President is requested to convey our expression of affectionate remembrance to Dr.

and Mrs. Speer and also to extend to Mrs. Elliott Speer its profound sympathy in this sudden bereavement.

"The Board desires Dr. Speer to extend his vacation so long as it may seem to him wise in order to secure adequate rest for his service during the coming year and also to minister in any way to the comfort of those who may especially need his care."

We have you much in mind for we realize how deeply your own hearts will be grieved by this inexplicable sorrow which has come to those whom you love as deeply as you do this stricken household.

Sincerely,

Cleland B. McAfee
Irene Sheppard
John A. Mackay
Courtenay H. Fenn
Russell Carter

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Cleland B. McAfee
Irene Sheppard
John A. Mackay
Courtenay H. Fenn
Russell Carter

*Amel
Oto*

HOWARD A. KELLY, M. D.
LIBRARY
1406 EUTAW PLACE, BALTIMORE, MD.
CABLE ADDRESS, "HAKELLY" BALTIMORE

4 October 1934

Dear Doctor Speer:

How greatly distressed we are with all your friends over the terrible irreparable loss of so precious a life and one so valuable to the community.

You are to be in Baltimore Tuesday, November 27th, to speak in the evening for the Lord's Day Alliance, and I write to ask if you will come to us for that day and night and remain over on Wednesday until it is time to leave for your evening engagement in Washington.

Faithfully,

Howard A. Kelly

6012 Green St.

Greentown, Pa.

Sept. 17, 1934

97

My dear Dr. Spear;
Seven years of hell in our own home - where our splendid Son lay ill with sleeping sickness from which we knew that he could not recover - helps Mrs. Jennings and me to understand something of the agony through which Mrs. Spear and you are going. We know, we sympathize, we pray fervently that God will give to you, as He has given to us, His sufficient Grace.

We cannot say more.
God bless you and yours, Dear
Fellow.

Faithfully yours,
W. B. Jennings

overwhelming urges
us to send to you
and Mr. Speer our
heart felt sympathy.

Yours sincerely
Lillian B. Alweg

Sunday Sept 17.

MAIL AND PARCEL POST
R. F. D. No 5
RIDGEFIELD, CONN.

MR. & MRS. FRANCIS LEONARD KELLOGG
MILL POND FARM
BEDFORD VILLAGE
NEW YORK

RAILROAD STATION
FREIGHT AND EXPRESS
KATONAH, N. Y.

TELEPHONE BEDFORD VILLAGE 26W

ack eggs
Oct 10

My dear Mr. Speer,

My husband is
feeling so terribly about
this tragic sorrow
which has befallen
you. Life conditions
are so difficult today,
that to have a loss
so unnecessary and
so sudden and so

very
very
very
very

overwhelming urges
us to send to you
and Mr. Speer our
heart felt sympathy.

Yours sincerely
Lionel B. Alwag

Sunday Sept 17.

ask

MINNEWAHWAH
WAH-WASH-KESH, ONTARIO
CANADA

My dear Mrs. Speer:

When the New York Herald Tribune and The Presbyterian arrived this evening in our twice-a-week-mail I learned of your great loss and sorrow. I just want you to know that you and Dr. Speer and all dear to your son and his wife are in the prayers and hearts of this one friend. My thoughts went back to John Williams of China. Nothing, no one, but our Heavenly Father and His son can comfort at this time.

Do not feel that you should try
to acknowledge this in any way. I know
you have the loving sympathy and
prayers of the multitude who know and
love you - Dr. Spear. I know that
each of our Honorary Members of National
Board in our particular circle and
all the others join in prayerful sympathy.

Yours affectionately

(Mrs. K.P.) Reta E. Ketchum

September 22 1934.

adm.

Our church.
Lost brothers
in the same
way -

15 West 11th St.

My dear Mrs. Spier,

The members of the
Missisquoi Society wish
me to send you their
love and sympathy, in
this hour of trial, and
to assure you that you
have their prayers, and
kindest thoughts. Be
sure it would help
you to hear the ex-
pression of Roman from
everyone, about this time

tragedy, and the wish that
we might be able to
help you bear the sorrow,
as Christians to gether
we remember you at the
throne of Grace - and want
you to know we are think-
ing of you -

Personally, I feel I can
come with sympathy
out of an understand-
ing heart, for two years
^{ago} I've passed through a-
bout the same thing -
Lin. King's youngest

Brother was just as
cruelly surrounded. We
took him into our own
home when his brother
died, so he was more
like a son than a
Brother - my own heavenly
Father understands, &
He alone can make
things right. His
love is sufficient for
all our needs, as you
well know. Our hearts
go out to the young
widow & the dear little

Family.

We have been thinking
of all of you daily,
and may God comfort
and sustain you -

Sincerely,

Your friend,

Florence B. King -
(Mrs. W. R.)

Oct. 7 - 1934.

the papers have carried some information also.

Today you and your family were remembered in very earnest prayer by our pastor, Dr. Stanley Hunter. May the loving sympathy of your many friends be but a very visible evidence of the Divine Comfort for which we all pray for you.

With loving remembrance

to Mrs. Spear,

Very faithfully yours,

Marcia Kerr.

The influence of his life
will live on, and you will
have joy in remembering
his association with so
worthwhile an enterprise.

The first word of the tragedy
came over the radio. We did
not hear it, but Mrs. Lee, the
mother of Mrs. Wilder Ellis, who
is one of our very good friends
and keeps us informed of
what we might otherwise
miss, telephoned. Since then

57

434 Michigan Avenue
Berkeley, California

Sept. 16, 1934.

Dear Dr. Speer,

It is hard to know what to say to you and Mrs. Speer in your sudden and tragic sorrow, but I do want you to know of my sympathy. I think that I have never met your son, but I have followed his work with very great interest, feeling sure that he would go forward in his chosen field of service.

017

First Presbyterian Church
Harkensack, N. J. Sept. 16. 1934.

Rev. Robert E. Spoor D.D.,
156 5th Ave. New York,

Dear Dr. Spoor:-

That you have the
deepest sympathy of the
entire Church in your great
sorrow you are fully aware
of, but you will kindly
accept mine.

This has been a great
shock, and especially so when
I so distinctly recall the
day he appeared before our

Presbyterian and out of which he went
to work for Christ and humanity.

May He who never fails us
when the sorrows surge and the
trials are heavy, be the strength
and support of the entire
family. "The Eternal God is
your Refuge, and underneath
are the everlasting arms."

Always Sincerely

C. R. Keckler,

57

Lake Placid Club

Essex co N Y

September 18, 1934.

Dear friends of many years,

There are no words to express to you the deep sympathy I have for you in this sore trial. Surely the Heavenly Father must be watching over you very tenderly and His aid must be never close.

These incomprehensible days teach us to say sincerely, "Come, O'rd Jesus".
With love in Him,
Orelia P. Greene King
(Mrs. Paul King)

CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable sign above or preceding the address.

WESTERN UNION

(04)

SIGNS

- DL = Day Letter
- IM = Night Message
- NL = Night Letter
- LC = Deferred Cable
- NLT = Cable Night Letter
- Ship Radiogram

R. B. WHITE
PRESIDENT

NEWCOMB CARLTON
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

J. C. WILLEVER
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

The filing time as shown in the date line on full-rate telegrams and day letters, and the time of receipt at destination as shown on all messages, is STANDARD TIME.

Received at Flatiron Bldg., New York City.

1934 SEP 15 PM 12 08

NBH270 10=TULSA OKLA 15 1055A

DR ROBERT E SPEER=

156 FIFTH AVE=

MINUTES IN TRANSIT	
FULL-RATE	DAY LETTER

ANNIE AND I SEND LOVING SYMPATHY TO YOU AND YOURS=

CHARLEY KERR.

R. E. Speer

SEP 15 1934

Ans. _____



CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable sign above or preceding the address.

WESTERN UNION (34)

R. B. WHITE
PRESIDENT

NEWCOMB CARLTON
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

J. C. WILLEVER
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SIGNS

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- NM = Night Message
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The filing time as shown in the date line on full-rate telegrams and day letters, and the time of receipt at destination as shown on all messages, is STANDARD TIME.

Received at

1934 SEP 16 PM 9 34

DRB365 8 NM=BALTIMORE MD 16

DR ROBERT E SPEER=

PRESBYTERIAN BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS 156 FIFTH AVE

NYK=

PROFOUNDTEST SYMPATHY AND AFFECTION IN YOUR TERRIBLE
BEREAVEMENT=

DR AND MRS HARRIS E KIRK.

MINUTES IN TRANSIT	
FULL-RATE	DAY LETTER

RECEIVED AT

85 MAIN ST.
TEL 1212 TARRING, CONN.

STANDARD TIME
INDICATED ON THIS MESSAGE

Postal Telegraph

THE INTERNATIONAL SYSTEM

Commercial
Cables



All America
Cables

Mackay

Radio

This is a full rate Telegram, Cablegram or Radiogram unless otherwise indicated by signal in the check or in the address.

DL	DAY LETTER
NL	NIGHT LETTER
NM	NIGHT MESSAGE
LCD	DEFERRED CABLE
NLT	NIGHT CABLE LETTER
WLT	WEEK END CABLE LETTER
	RADIOGRAM

Form
1c

HD14 6=MY NEWYORK NY 15 1041A

1934 SEP 15 AM 11 17

DR ROBERT & MRS SPEER=
LAKEVILLE CONN=

202

PLEASE ACCEPT OUR VERY SINCERE SYMPATHY=
MR AND MRS EUGENE J KOOP.



NO. _____ TO _____
BY DE AT 11:20 TO BE mailed
CALLS 1

Postal Telegraph



Telephone Your Telegrams to **Postal Telegraph**

CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable sign above or preceding the address.

WESTERN UNION

R. B. WHITE
PRESIDENT

NEWCOMB CARLTON
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

J. C. WILLEVER
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

SIGNS

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NM = Night Message

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• Ship Radiogram

The filing time as shown in the date line on full-rate telegrams and day letters, and the time of receipt at destination as shown on all messages, is STANDARD TIME.

Received at

GR69 23=PITTSBURGH PENN SEP 15 1130A

DR ROBERT E SPEER=
NORTHFIELD MASS=

MINUTES IN TRANSIT

FULL-RATE

DAY LETTER

WE ARE SHOCKED BY THE NEWS OF ELLIOTT'S DEATH AND HASTEN TO
SEND YOU OUR LOVE MAY GOD BLESS AND KEEP YOU ALL=

HUGH T KERR.

1215P.

RR

39 Fifth Avenue
New York.

My dear friends.

May I add my message
of sympathy and love to the
many you have received.

I don't believe that any
sorrow could have touched
any of us more poignantly
than this one which has come
to you. You have been in
our hearts and prayers almost
constantly.

I am so glad that I knew
your soul, for he had part in
the Missionary Conference at
Northfield in July. I shall never
forget his fine presence and
spirit.

May our loving Father be
your Comfort and give you
that peace that passeth
understanding.

Sincerely yours,

Helen Kirtledge

September 19-1934.

511

Houston, Texas -

My dear Rob.

Herbert and I have
been thinking of Emma and
you and of Elliott's - precious
family and we sympathize
with you all in the loss
of Elliott. You have hundreds
of letters of course - from friends,
but do you know of the many
many people who were shocked
and show interest - and
sympathy are yours.
The Houston papers have

give numerous accounts -
and pictures of Elliot - and of
his home. and my friends,
knowing you and Emma
through your work, have
expressed to me their
sympathy - and so it
must be very true, the
unknown friends you have.

Lucretia has been very
much upset. and she
wonders - quite fully what
she knows.

Do not take the time to write
me now, for I know you have

other duties at present -
and I shall not expect
a reply - only know
that Herbert and I send
you all our love -

In deepest sympathy -

Bess -

September - thirty -

Ms. B. 1. 1. 1.

3. 2. W. Adams

PETER KNOWLES
19 RECTOR STREET
NEW YORK CITY

act.

My dear Mrs. Speer.

I have just heard
the news of Eliotes tragic death
and I want you to know how
deeply I sympathize with you and
all your family. I only heard the
news yesterday from Elizabeth Gross
as I live out in the country and
didn't get a newspaper for a day
or two. I can well imagine what

PETER KNOWLES
19 RECTOR STREET
NEW YORK CITY

a dreadful shock it must have
been to you and Dr. Speer. Why
Elliott, who led such a splendid
upright life, should be taken in
this way, is more than I can under-
stand. Please give my deepest
sympathy to Holly and I want you
all to know that I am thinking
about you.

Yours sincerely
Peter Knowles

ack.

339—North Arlington Avenue
East Orange, New Jersey

September 17, 1934

My dear Mrs. Speer:

May I add my personal expression of sympathy and love to the thousands you must be receiving at this time.

Perhaps, if the other person had been surrounded with such love as we have seen your fine family receiving, — perhaps it need not have happened.

Remember me to the lovely sister who was such a gracious hostess for my little visit to

339—North Arlington Avenue
East Orange, New Jersey

Bryn Mawr, and know that
Mrs. Kroll and I are
remembering you and Dr.
Speer with especial regard
at this time. Your home
life is such an inspira-
tion to us!

Sincerely,

Mary Hill Kroll
(Mrs. (H. M. E.))

ack,

September 16th, 1934.

40 EAST EIGHTY-THIRD STREET
NEW YORK

Dear Emma,
May an old friend send
you a message of love and
sympathy in this sad hour of
your grief for your fine young
son. It must be a comfort
to know that his short life
was a source of inspiration
for many other lives and that
it leaves a very happy memory.

I am thinking of you and
only wish that I might see

ym. some time.

Affectionately yours.

Florence King.

670

Sincere sympathy

Miss Mary W. Kerr

Wroth

018



Dear Robert:

London. 1855

You are often in my mind
and prayer. Life is such an inscrutable
experience. I watched my own father wrestle
with almost an identical deprivation. The
experience made him a greater tower of
strength, I am confident the same will
be true of you. I love you and look to you
for further illumination of the Way of life.

Devotedly
Albert Keiser

Dr Robert E. Spier

OH

8 East Westmelt Avenue,
Tenafly, New Jersey, Sept. 18, 1934.

My dear Dr. Speer: -

Just a word to assure
you of my deep sympathy and
my earnest prayers in this hour.

Sincerely,

Robert M. Kurtz.

434 MICHIGAN AVENUE
BERKELEY - CALIFORNIA

9/16/34.

Dr. Robert E. Speer,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York City, N. Y.

My dear Dr. Speer:-

It was with the greatest of distress that we heard the dreadful news about your son's violent death. I do not know just what to say to you except that you have our deepest sympathy in this calamitous bereavement that has come to you. May you and your family and your son's family be sustained by the Divine grace in this dark hour for you all. You surely have had enough to bear with the out this horrible affair having been added to your tremendous load of care and concern. What mysteries there are in this life!

I know that your hosts of friends will be communicating with you and I want to be included in the vast number who are suffering with you at this time. Marcia is sending her own word directly to you, but this also includes her and my grandson Donald. May the peace of ^{God which} passeth all understanding guard your heart and thoughts in Christ Jesus. With repeated assurance of loving sympathy, I am

Yours most truly

John H. Kerr

640

GROVE CITY COLLEGE
GROVE CITY, PA.

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
WEIR C. KETLER

September 20, 1934

Doctor Robert E. Speer
156 Fifth Avenue
New York City

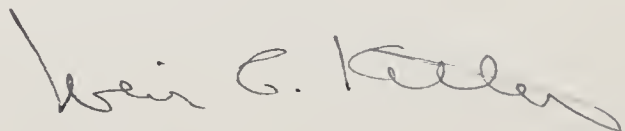
My dear Doctor Speer:

I cannot tell you how deeply shocked I was to read in the paper the account of your son's tragic death. It seems incredible that such thing could happen in a country such as ours. The willful taking of such life seems almost unthinkable. I want you to know that your friends in this community sympathize greatly with you and your family and the family of your son.

I had never had the pleasure of meeting your son. I have followed, however, his career with a great deal of interest and rejoiced in the success he was having in his work at Northfield. The loss of such a man is great indeed and it is especially deplorable when it was so unnecessary.

Please accept my heartfelt sympathy for you and those about you in this tragic time through which you are passing.

Sincerely yours,



WCK:AA

57

WEST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
WASHINGTON AND EIGHTH STREETS
WILMINGTON, DELAWARE

MINISTER
A. H. KLEFFMAN

ASSISTANTS
THOMAS S. ARMENTROUT
MISS ALICE L. PICKERING

OFFICE
TELEPHONE 2-7145

September 18, 1934

Mr. Robert E. Speer, D. D.
156 Fifth Avenue
New York, N. Y.

My dear Dr. Speer:

Just a few lines to express my sympathy to you in the tragic death of your son, Elliott. For the world and the Kingdom of God to lose the services of such a talented man as was your son, is one of the mysteries of Providence. How comforting our hope that sometime, we who now see only in part will be able to see clearly!

Trusting that you and Mrs. Speer are being strengthened by the message of the precious promises of God's Word, I am

Sincerely yours,

A. H. Kleffman

G-4

201 HAMILTON AVENUE
NEW ROCHELLE, NEW YORK

Sept 17, 1934

Dear Dr. Speer :-

It is difficult to write this little note to you. I hesitated to send any word, knowing you would understand that your friends are thinking of you. All I am able to say is that I am definitely praying for you and yours to the only One who can help.

Please do not send even an acknowledgment to me.

Yours,
W. H. H. H. H.

C. W. Kerr

First Presbyterian Church

SEVENTH AND BOSTON

TULSA, OKLAHOMA

156

REV. C. W. KERR, Pastor

December 18, 1934.

Dr. Robert E. Speer,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York, N.Y.

Dear Robert:

Mrs. Kerr and I are thinking of you and yours at this season of the year. I am sure this Christmas will mean more to you than any other Christmas because it is your boy's first Christmas in heaven. I am reminded of what John Willis Baer's little boy said when his mother spoke of his little brother who had recently gone Home. She said, "This is Howard's first Christmas in heaven." And the boy answered, "Mother, I would like to know isn't Christmas every day in heaven?" I am sure the little lad had caught the meaning of Christmas.

Truly it is Christmas day every day with your son, Eliot, for he is in the presence of his Lord.

May God richly bless you and spare you for many years of active service in the work of His Kingdom. Don't forget we are hoping you can plan to be with us in Tulsa at the meeting of Synod and the celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the found of our church next fall.

Your friend,

CWK

CWK:M

One
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF NEWBURGH, N. Y.

REV. CHARLES K. IMBRIE, D. D., PASTOR.

September 19, 1934

My dear Dr Speer:

Need I tell you how deeply the tragic home-going of your boy has touched Mrs Imbrie and myself. You and Mrs Speer have been in our prayers continually since we read of his death.

May the Father of us all breathe into your troubled hearts his loving Spirit; the Spirit who knows the deep things of God and can cause light to shine in the darkness; the Spirit who can be grieved with our own grief and who is the Comforter.

Our sympathy of course goes in deep measure to the wife and children also.

You will be pressed with many cares so do not add the burden of a reply.

Very sincerely,

CK Imbrie

578

First Presbyterian Church

J. HENRY IRWIN
PASTOR

Britton, South Dakota

Sept 19, 1934.

Dr Robert F Speer,
New York City.

Dear doctor.

In reading the names from the Year Book of Prayer Sunday morning, I announced to my congregation that our own Miss Tick was sailing tomorrow for Africa. I then spoke of the terrible shock you had just experienced, and I am writing to tell you that our hearts and prayers go out to you at this time.

May you and others of the family, grieved and distressed, find God's comfort and peace. Read Nahum 1:7.

Sincerely Yours,

J. Henry Irwin

16

ST JAMES MANSE

206 WEST 137th STREET

NEW YORK

November 1, 1934

Dear Friends:-

It is such a joy to note in the columns of the Christian Century Pulpit the fine and noble word of your beloved son, which proved his valedictory address to the young people entrusted to his care at Mount Hermon. God be thanked for words that can transcend even the tragedy and sorrow which so beset our path here.

Keeping in mind your most helpful visit to our church in the year of your moderatorship, and your message to us, we had planned to write you our sincere word of sympathy and understanding long before this. But it **may** not come amiss that the delay occurred; how much better it is to have the holy memory of God's comfort to us, and His fulfillment of a great purpose of love through sacrifice.

Yours in the Bonds of that Love,

Wm Lloyd & Grace V. Imes
Wm. Lloyd and Grace V. Imes

Dr. and Mrs. Robert E. Speer,
Board of Foreign Missions,
156 Fifth Avenue, City.

BY DIRECT WIRE FROM

1223-S

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GR21 26 DL XC=VN BRONXVILLE NY SEP 15 854A

DR ROBERT E SPEER=

MOUNTHERMON SCHOOL NORTHFIELD MASS=

PROFOUND SYMPATHY AND PRAYERS WILL COME TO YOU OR UNDERTAKE
ELSEWHERE ANY COMMISSION ANYWHERE FOR YOU OR FAMILY IF YOU
WILL ONLY INTIMATE THE SAME AFFECTIONATELY=

GUY INMAN

948A

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DR ROBERT E SPEER=

ROCKLEDGE LAKEVILLE CONN=

MINUTES IN AMOUNT	
FULL-RATE	DAY LETTER

=PLEASE ACCEPT OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHY MAY GOD COMFORT YOU ALL=

=GEORGE IRVING.=

257P.



THIRD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
NEWARK, NEW JERSEY

My dear Robert:

My heart has
been going out to you
in great sympathy during
these days of your great sorrow.
There is no word I can say that
seems adequate to express
even a tithe of the sorrow that
any one who knows you and
who knew your splendid son
must feel.

Of all the mysteries that
seem inexplicable the one

takes a prominent place in my
experience. Such a worthless waste
of life so promising just makes
one surer of God and His Strawn.

I remember once wondering
at a sad experience in my own
life - when the word came hurtling
at me "O fool & slow of heart to believe"
"If you believe, what of it?"

And I tried harder to believe in
Gods glory. The Glory Jesus prayed for
for his disciples and all who through
their word believed - "The Glory I had
with thee before the worlds foundation."
Robert I believe - but I cant help being sorry
for you & his Speer and the blame daughters - no law
Yours most sincerely Robert Scott Douglas
Oct 7 - 1934

54

GEORGE INNES
DAVENPORT

September 17-1934

Dear Robert

Yesterday morning I learned of your terrible misfortune in the death of your son Elliott. I want you to know that my sympathy goes out to you and Mrs Speer in this time of terrible sorrow. Dr Coffman, the pastor of our Church asked me if I would also express to you his sympathy.

We are praying for you and for Mrs Speer. May you be sustained with genuine sympathy & love I am.

Very Sincerely

George Innes

013

J. M. Imrie

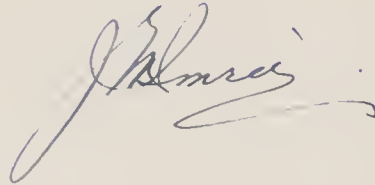
22 Logan Apts.
720 West Boyd,
Norman, Oklahoma.
October 3rd. 1934.

Dr. Robert E. Speer,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York City.

My dear Dr. Speer;

A multitude of hearts grieve with you in your crushing
bereavement. Our sympathy we offer and our prayers we raise for you and yours.

Very sincerely,



Rev. J.M.Imrie.
of West Africa Mission
on furlough.

578

PRESIDENT
REV. JOHN WESSELINK, D.D.
Pella, Iowa

VICE-PRESIDENT
REV. A. L. WARNSHUIS, D.D.
419 4th Ave., N. Y. City

STATED CLERK
REV. JOHN A. INGHAM, D. D.
25 East 22nd St., New York
Phone, Algonquin 4-2151

GENERAL SYNOD OF THE REFORMED CHURCH IN AMERICA

Next Meeting at the First Reformed Church, Rochester, New York

(REV. GARRET HONDELINK, B. D., Pastor)

One Hundred and Twenty-Ninth Session (without quorum), June 6, 1935

One Hundred and Thirtieth Session (full attendance), June 4, 1936

PERMANENT CLERK
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25 East 22nd St., New York

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Stuyvesant, N. Y.

TREASURER
GEORGE TIFFANY, Esq.
25 East 22d Street, New York

September 19, 1934.

Dr. Robert E. Speer,
156 5th Ave.,
N.Y. City.

My dear Dr. Speer:-

I cannot forbear a simple word from Mrs. Ingham and myself to say that we feel deeply your great sorrow.

God bless you all.

Sincerely yours,

John A. Ingham

ack.

4 Mansfield Street

New Haven, Connecticut.

September 20 - 1934.

Dear Mrs. Spurz.

Words fail us at a time like this, but I want so much to tell you that all my heart goes out to you and your family in your great sorrow.

May the Christ who said "I am the Resurrection and the Life" bring you His

Strength and courage. I am so thankful your
faith is a strong and living one, otherwise I
do not see how you could bear up under
this blow.

Out of the years that are gone, I send
you some of deepest sympathy. May
God be very close to you!

Ever sincerely yours.
Rebecca Goulin James.

139 MONTAGUE STREET
BROOKLYN, N.Y.

Dear Doctor:

We wish to tell you
how our heart felt sympathy goes
out to Mrs. Speed and yourself in
your great sorrow the result of
this unspeakable crime which took
the life of your dear son.

Sincerely yours
J. Chas. Jamieson

Sept 16th 34

ask
EPT. Dec 15

December 14.

Dear Mrs. Spear:

Your sorrow, is, I know,
too sacred for human touch.

Your words of comfort
meant so much to us, when
my mother went, — just after
we had left Englewood to
come to New Haven to live.

You told us, and I am sure we

from your son, just a short time be-
fore school opened this fall. I had
written to him about the daughter of
a friend of ours, who wanted to enter
the school. He wrote such a charming,
understanding letter, - and the child
was accepted, and is there now, but
that recent contact - made me realize
more than ever, yours, - and our,
great loss. My mother was always
keenly interested in Northfield, and

one would have been more sur-
prised than my dear mother, what
an inspiration her face used to
be to you, as you led the mission
away willingly in the dear old
church. Mother's serenity was
so beautiful, and it is what I
held on to now, in the midst
of the seeming world confusion
and grief. The beauty of de-
sign in our lives, nothing
can destroy. I am so thank-
ful for that. I had a letter

used to go thru rumors - so that
I have always been especially interested
because of her interest. Do not try to
answer him. I shall understand. I am
grateful for your courage and
faith. Faithfully yours
Cor. B. N. Johnson

(Mrs. F. B.)

ack.

Box 1205-

Oak Bluffs

Mass.

There seems nothing that
one can say except that
our hearts are with you
in this unexplainable
thing. In Elot it is
all going for the need
human people left
behind there must

be loneliness and sorrow.

May the grace of God
be with you through
it all

your friend

Helen Jackson

619
With deep sympathy -

Wm. & Mrs. L. Stuart Dodge Jessup

411 West 114th Street

017

My dear Doctor and Mrs Speer:-

As soon as I recovered a little from the shock, I began at once to rejoice that you had such a son, and that you still have him, and that we all have a God who can match all our needs.

Affectionately yours,

Charles E. Jefferson.

Fitzwilliam Dept. N.H. Sep. 17th, 1934.

Presbyterian Hospital.

Proctor Av. Mrs. Grant Jones
3416 Baring St.
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sept. 17. 24.

67

Dr. & Mrs. Robert E. Spear

Dear Friends

I just want to
send a line expressing my
deepest sympathy in your
sudden & terrible sorrow.
May His Presence be very near
strengthening & comforting
Yours sincerely
Ellen A. Jones.

517

THE PRESBYTERY OF BUFFALO-NIAGARA
CURTISS BUILDING
DELAWARE AVENUE AT TUPPER STREET
BUFFALO, N. Y.

Sept 17-1934

My dear Dr. Speer:-
My heart goes out
to you and Mrs. Speer - and to the
widow and children - I hate to think
that such a promising life has been
taken from us - I hate to think that
the most burdening trial has been laid
upon you. Please know that you have
my sympathy - and all your friends
up here share in it.
May God's Comfort be

with you.

Sincerely yours
Frank Lane

612
FLEMING JAMES
ST. JOHN'S RECTORY
4 MANSFIELD STREET
NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT

September 20, 1934

Dear Dr. Spear:

It was with grief and a sense of being stunned that we read in the newspapers the account of what happened to your son - I did not know him, except for a meeting once or twice, when he was a boy of twenty or less: but I have always felt the sense of his worth to the world - There is nothing that I can say except to tell you that you and Mrs. Spear have been much in our thoughts -

I recall how good a friend you were to me in England in the time of my trouble in 1917, and ever cherish gratefulude to you for the friendship you then displayed -

May God give you his peace

Faithfully yours

Fleming James

This time, than very mys-
terious it will seem, ^{and}
~~get~~, He knows - I've
~~pray~~ That His grace and
His strength may ins-
tant - as no pen or
word of mouth can ever
accomplish, my daught-
er (Lena), is an old
graduate of Northfield,
and feels very keen-
ly your loss - Please
accept the enclosed
sweet poem, and re-
member we are pray-
ing for you - and think-
ing about you both.

Affectionately.

(Mrs) Jennie H,

and

Leila Judson.

Appt. C-927-14th Street,

Santa Monica - California

57 Sept. 19th - 1934

Dear Friends: - We have heard of the sudden, recent bereavement, that has crossed your pathway - in the sad passing of your dear son Elliott at Northfield - How our hearts, (Lena and myself), ache, and we want to extend our deepest sympathy and earnest prayers at

--AWAY--

I cannot say, and I will not say
That he is dead. He is just away!
With a cherry smile and a wave of the hand
He has wandered into an unknown land

And left us dreaming how very fair
It needs must be, since he lingers there,
And you-oh you, who the wildest yearn
For the old-time step and the glad return

Think of him faring on, as dear
In the love of There, as the love of Here
Think of him still as the same, I say,
He is not dead-he is just away.

James Whitcomb Riley.

57

234 WASHINGTON AVENUE
BROOKLYN, NEW YORK

September 21, 1934

Dear Doctor Speer:

Mrs Judd and I want you to know of our sympathy with you and your dear ones in this hour of your deep sorrow - though no words can express it. That the presence of the Great Shepherd may be very real to you as you walk through the dark valley is our sincere prayer and assurance.

We know something of the grief of losing dear children, and also of the comfort of the precious memories of their lives which are a priceless heritage, God-given. You will find much of consolation in the noble record of service to God and man which your splendid son has left for our inspiration.

Sincerely your friend

Orvin R. Judd

I return to
 Beaver
 High School
 Hospital
 Yours sincerely
 John
 I do not
 know
 you have
 written from Wooster, Ohio -
 Sept 20th 1934.

I cannot let
 many days go by - without
 writing to offer you my deep
 sympathy - to you and Mrs Speer
 and the other members of your
 family whom I do not know -;
 for whatever sorrow comes upon
 you and yours - touches us all.

My sister Mrs
 Mitchell is writing to you and
 her daughter Rachel joins us in
 the prayer that God may give
 you strength and courage and
 His patience for the days to come.
 Your son was known and loved

by many and we all mourn
his loss - struck down - as he was -
in the vigor of young manhood -
may God comfort you and
his wife and children - and
He will I know - for we
know " Whom we have believed
and He has conquered Death
and the Grave. We can
trust ourselves and those we
love to Him -

Hugh Mitchell M.D is lying
in Cleveland Hospital, now recovering
from a serious operation for ^{appendicitis}
My sister Bess, is one of his nurses
and during her absence Mrs Gibson
and I are staying with my sister
Mrs Mitchell here. A week ago, we
feared he could not live but now he
is out of danger. Rachel will be taking
some Post Grad work in Cleveland soon
and I am hoping we three sisters + Mrs Gibson
may return to Florida in December next.

Act.



THE GEORGE WASHINGTON
23 LEXINGTON AVENUE
AT 23RD STREET
NEW YORK

Dear Mrs. Speer -

My love and
sympathy go out to you
and yours - and I wish
I might help you bear this
great blow.

The relationship of mother and
child I never knew - so I
cannot measure your loss.

I am glad you still
have your home. and
husband - and children -
and I know our Father will
comfort you, and in His
good time interpret it.

If there is anything I
can do for you, please
let me know -

Lovingly
Marion

Ans
Q. 5

S. L. JOSHI
DARTMOUTH COLLEGE
HANOVER, N. H.

Sept 28th '34

Dear Dr. Speer

I have learnt with profound grief of the great sorrow which has come to Mrs. Speer and yourself in the declining years of life. While I wish to express my deepest sympathy in your loss, no human words can help in the healing of wounds inflicted on the heart through the insane workings of the animal nature of man.

The outrage which has put a tragic end to the bright and hopeful career of your fine young son, has justly roused the indignation of all of your friends and I hope the mystery will soon be unravelled.

To those whose life is hidden with Christ in God, there is no death. The blessed fact of eternal life gives the never-failing assurance that our dear ones who have departed this life always continue their being in the presence of God Himself.

"Even to your old age I am He; and even to hoar hairs will I carry you; I have made and I will bear; even I will carry and will deliver you" Isa XLVI. 4.

Kindly extend to your daughter-in-law and her children my heart-felt sympathy for the entire family. May the great love of God guide them with His wisdom, strengthen them with His power and shield them against all evil!

Dear Dr. Speer, I have known you so many years and have always regarded you as a man whose life is firmly established on the rock of Christ. I also know of the profound spiritual experience of dear Mrs. Speer. I beg both of you to bear up this great Cross in profound submission to the will of God and let it prove to be a fresh lever to draw both of you closer to the heart of ^{the} Heavenly Father, who will never forsake those whose life is centred in Him.

yours in profound sympathy

S. L. Joshi

P.S. I broke down my health last winter and am advised to give up my position here and go to a tropical land to avoid the risk of death in New Hampshire. Am going to India for a year and shall try to see you in New York some time next-month before I leave America.

Aut.



THE GEORGE WASHINGTON
23 LEXINGTON AVENUE
AT 23RD STREET
NEW YORK

Dear Mrs. Speer.

I have just
this moment seen the
newspaper headlines -

I send you my love
and sympathy - and may
God bless and comfort you -

Marion -

ack.

SWEET BRIAR COTTAGE, LINTON LANE
EASTVILLE
BOX 1205, OAK BLUFFS
MASSACHUSETTS

September 17-1934

My dear Mr. Speer,

May I send a message
of love and sympathy
from us all - Someday
you may feel able to
read the neobred
little prayer which
comforts me - I had it

Copied,

We grieve with you all.

Mabel Stanway Jackson

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MR AND MRS ROBERT E SPEER=

156 5 AVE NYK=

MINUTES IN TRANSIT

FULL-RATE	DAY LETTER
-----------	------------

SHOCKED AND GRIEVED TO READ OF THE DEATH OF ELLIOTT OUR
HEARTS SORROW WITH YOU=

WESTON AND LOUISE JOHNSON.

RECEIVED AT

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TEL. 3228 TORRINGTON CONN

STANDARD TIME
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THE INTERNATIONAL SYSTEM

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Mackay

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NL	NIGHT LETTER
NM	NIGHT MESSAGE
LCO	DEFERRED CABLE
NLT	NIGHT CABLE LETTER
WLT	WEEK END CABLE LETTER
	RADIOGRAM

Form
11

HD16 8=FV NEWYORK NY 15 100P

1934 SEP 15 PM 1 11

DR AND MRS ROBERT E SPEER=
LAKEVILLE CONN=

282

MY DEEP SYMPATHY GOES OUT TO YOU TODAY=
F ERNEST JOHNSON.



NO. 282 TO _____
BY SB AT 1:20 TO BE mailed
CALLS 1

Telephone Your Telegrams to **Postal Telegraph**



640

TEL. SPRING 7-3000

UNDER
KNOTT MANAGEMENT

HOTEL HOLLEY
WASHINGTON SQUARE WEST
NEW YORK, N.Y.

Sept. 18, 1934

Robert E. Speer, M.D.

My Dear Doctor Speer: In
the tide of sympathy
that is moving to
you and Mrs. Speer
I share. I knew your
son slightly, but
one did not need
to be intimate with
him to discover
his rare excellence.
I looked to him to
carry forward in
his own way his
Christian activities
in the same spirit
which have made

your own life
a blessing to your
time.

May the Comfort
of divine grace at-
tend you and
yours.

Very truly,
James H. Joy

118

Glen Abou Presbyterian Church
Duluth, Minnesota

Dear Dr. Speer:

For a week I have been trying to lift my pen to write a word of sympathy, but each time my pen has been reluctant as though it feared it might utter some "idle words".

Your loss ^{has} been so stunning and tragic that perhaps silence is best. Yet somehow I felt impelled to tell you that Mrs. Jones and I do not forget you at the Thruway. We have never sat where you sit - I fear my strength would not suffice - yet we have sat several times where the shadows deepen. Thank God for the Light that penetrates the gloom. This Light you know far better than many of the rest of us.

Yours very cordially,
O. W. Jones.

Duluth, September 26th, 1934.

WM. HALLOCK JOHNSON
PRESIDENT

WALTER LIVINGSTON WRIGHT
VICE-PRESIDENT

Ans

Lincoln University

LINCOLN UNIVERSITY
CHESTER COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

September 19, 1934

My dear Robert:

Please do not answer this but I feel like writing a word to express the sympathy that I feel in the mysterious tragedy that has befallen you. We hope and pray that the fountains of confidence and strength to which you have directed so many others in their time of need may in full measure be opened for you and yours in your trouble and distress.

Faithfully, your friend,

Wm Hallock Johnson

Dr. Robert E. Speer,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York, N. Y.

Rev. Robert E. Speer
156 Fifth Ave
New York City. 518
U.S.A.

From Dr. Elias Johnson
3123 Eltrick Street
Los Angeles Calif.
Sept 16th 1934,

My dear Dr. Speer,

May God sustain you and all
your dear ones during these days of
sorrow and sadness.

I have just read of the death
of your son and I pray God to
sustain you and your family
through the sore grief in the loss
of your son.

May our dear Heavenly Father give
to you and yours the strength and
faith to sustain you.

I will not fail to pray our
God and Father for peace and
faith and strength to sustain you.

Your friend

Elias Johnson

94

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2825 Lexington Road

LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY

WILLIAM HERSEY DAVIS, M.A., Th.D., D.D.

Director

THOMAS A. JOHNSON, Th.M.
Librarian

Sept. 15, 1934

Rev. Dr. R. E. Speer,
New York City

My dear Dr. Speer:

I was greatly distressed by the news in today's papers of the shocking tragedy that has invaded your family, and want to express my profound sympathy for you, and the immediate household of your son and to assure you that Mrs. Johnson and I are "partakers of your sorrow," and are praying that our Father's "grace may be sufficient for you."

Cordially yours,

Thos. A. Johnson.

674

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

ALBERT SIDNEY JOHNSON, D. D., PASTOR

CHARLOTTE, N. C.

Sept. 17, 1934.

Dr. Robert E. Speer,
156 5th Avenue,
New York City.

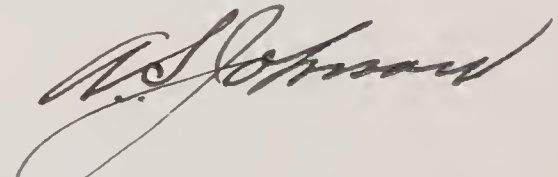
My dear Dr. Speer:

Human sympathy is a very poor thing at best, but I just wanted to write you this line of heart-felt sympathy and prayers in these days of separation from your dear boy.

Whatever the circumstances of life are, I am sure you know as well as I that God's Providence and love operate effectively to protect, sanctify and give peace to His servants. Then that wonderful promise in 1st Thessalonians 4:13-18 comes in here to soothe and comfort that the days may be short until you see him again.

With prayers and best wishes, I am

Sincerely,



A.S. Johnson.

ASJ/C

513

کالج امریکائی تہران

AMERICAN COLLEGE OF TEHERAN
TEHERAN, PERSIA

S. M. JORDAN, PRESIDENT
W. A. GROVES, DEAN

156 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK CITY

Send reply to

PHILADELPHIA OFFICE
WITHERSPOON BUILDING
PHILADELPHIA, PA.

S. M. JORDAN, PRESIDENT
REPRESENTATIVE IN AMERICA 1934-1935

MISS MARY ANDERSON
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Sept. 19, 1934 -

Dear Dr. and Mrs. Speer,-

The tragedy at Mt. Hermon seems a horrible nightmare - One would not have believed such a thing possible - Words cannot express our horror and grief -

Altho you already know it Mrs. Jordan and I wish to assure you of our love and sympathy in the sorrow that has come to you and yours - Tens of thousands in all parts of the world are sorrowing with you and praying that God himself will speak to you His own comfort and peace -

Your sincere friend
S. M. Jordan

074

Edgewood Pa Sept. 20 1934

Dear Dr. Spier,

Would that I might bear to you
a message of comfort as you did to
me a few months ago.

Words seem weak and almost meaningless,
but we are called to test the rich
promises of the Master we serve. And
we know that the Comforter is
near with grace that sustains

Most Sincerely -

Austin H. Jolly

618

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
CORNER CHURCH AND ONTARIO STREETS
LOCKPORT, N. Y.

September 17, 1937

Dr. Robert E. Speer
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York City

My dear Dr. Speer:

My heart goes out to you and Mrs. Speer in this hour of your great bereavement. Mrs. Jenney joins me in this expression of kindest sympathy.

Most sincerely yours
Chester E. Jenney

Frances Williamson Laughlin
R. E. Spear

156

My dear Rob,
I want you all to know, how
I do sympathize with you, in the great
sorrow that has come to you.

I know what a close bond, there was,
between you, and Elliott. How comforting and
beautiful, the memory, of the many happy
times spent together.

What a great comfort to you and Mrs
Spear to have had, such a wonderful
son, whose influence will never
die.

We just cannot understand why
such sorrows must come to us.

In deepest sympathies

Frances Williamson Laughlin

3406 Baring St. Phoe.,
Nov 30 1934.

MILLBROOK
DUTCHESS COUNTY
NEW YORK

2021
Dear Mrs. Speer. -

I have just gotten home from
Miss ~~Speer~~ and learn of the great sorrow
that has come to your family.

I send you my love and very
deep sympathy and wish there were more
I could do.

Truly yours,

Elizabeth K. Lamont

September 1892.

ack. reply.

MRS. ALBERT K. LUDY
ROUTE 2, BOX 417
TUCSON, ARIZONA

Mrs. Robt. E. Speer,

Englewood, N. J.

My dear Mrs. Speer -

Our hearts have been saddened ever since we read of the tragedy in your home circle.

You used to speak of your children in your letters, sometimes, when Mr. Ludy was electrical engineer at Sheldon Jackson School - and of course we have always been interested when reading or hearing of them.

We want you and Mr. Speer to know that you have our ear.

nest prayers for Gods comfort
and His very real strength. How
precious you both must be, in
His sight, with your lifetimes
of wonderful service!

Very lovingly.

Ethel Albrecht Rudy.

We have been in Tucson for twelve
years - Mr. Rudy is Observer at the
U. S. Magnetic Observatory here. The
children are fast growing up -
Florence, who was ten months
old in Pitka, will be nineteen
this week, a sophomore in ^{our} Univ-
ersity College of Music - our fifth
in College! And two boys - four-
teen and nine, to keep us young.

4/22.

330 East 52 St.
New York

Dear Mrs. Spear -

I want you to know
that you have been in
my thoughts constantly
these last few weeks. I know
you have been overburdened
with demands on your
time and I have not
wanted to add even the
smallest extra burden
of reading another letter.
I have grieved with you
and my own experience of
two sudden and tragic

deaths in my family have
helped me to understand
your sorrow.

Please count me among
the friends who love
you and who wish that
their love might help
you at this time.

Sincerely yours
Josephine Little

October 3.

BY DIRECT WIRE FROM

1223S

CLASS OF SERVICE.

This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable sign above or preceding the address.

WESTERN UNION

SIGNS

- DL = Day Letter
- NM = Night Message
- NL = Night Letter
- LCO = Deferred Cable
- NLT = Cable Letter
- WLT = Week-End Letter

NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT

J. C. WILLEVER, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

The filing time as shown in the date line on full-rate telegrams and day letters, and the time of receipt at destination as shown on all messages, is STANDARD TIME.

NG94 12 XC=TDWI OXFORD PENN SEP 15 800P

DR ROBERT E SPEER=

LAKEVILLE CONN:

=MOST LOVING SYMPATHY TO YOU BOTH :FROM MOTHER FLEMING MARY AND MYSELF=

: ROBERT M LABAREE.

.825P.

TELEPHONE No. 282

TELEPHONED TO

TIME

BY..... TO BE.....

ATTEMPTS }
TO }
DELIVER }

CLASS OF SERVICE

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WESTERN UNION

R. B. WHITE
PRESIDENT

NEWCOMB CARLTON
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

J. C. WILLEVER
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

SIGNS

- DL = Day Letter
- NM = Night Message
- NL = Night Letter
- LC = Deferred Cable
- NLT = Cable Night Letter
- Ship Radiogram

The filing time as shown in the date line on full-rate telegrams and day letters, and the time of receipt at destination as shown on all messages, is STANDARD TIME.

Received at 19 Dean Street, Englewood, N. J.

ORXNT319 31 2 EXTRA=PATERSON NJ 16 NFT=

DR AND MRS ROBERT E SPEER=
ENGLEWOOD NJ=

MINUTES IN TRANSIT	
FULL-RATE	DAY LETTER

WE ARE SHOCKED AND GRIEVED BEYOND EXPRESSION BY THE NEWS OF YOUR SONS TRAGIC DEATH MRS LOCKHART AND I EXTEND TO YOU AND YOURS OWN SINCERE AND HEARTFELT SYMPATHY=

JAMES H LOCKHART

LAKE SPACID CLUB NY.

Calbs-7373
miss Oly

maybe all gone
just ads

CLASS OF SERVICE

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WESTERN UNION

R. B. WHITE
PRESIDENT

NEWCOMB CARLTON
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

J. C. WILLEVER
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

SIGNS

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 NLT = Cable Night Letter
 Ship Radiogram

The filing time as shown in the date line on full-rate telegrams and day letters, and the time of receipt at destination as shown on all messages, is STANDARD TIME.

Received at

GR70 41 DL=BALTIMORE MD SEP 15 1117A

REV ROBERT E SPEER=

NORTHFIELD MASS=

MINUTES IN TRANSIT	
FULL-RATE	DAY LETTER

ACCEPT MY DEEPEST SYMPATHY IN THE GREAT SORROW THAT HAS COME TO YOU IN THE DEATH OF YOUR SON MAY GODS RICHEST BLESSINGS REST UPON YOU AND YOURS AND HIS ABOUNDING GRACE BE SUFFICIENT IN THIS HOUR OF TRIAL AND NEED=

JOSHUA LEVERING.

1217P.

CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable sign above or preceding the address.

WESTERN UNION

R. B. WHITE
PRESIDENT

NEWCOMB CARLTON
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

J. C. ...
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

SIGNS

- DL = Day Letter
- NM = Night Message
- NL = Night Letter
- LC = Deferred Cable
- NLT = Cable Night Letter
- Ship Radiogram

(22)

The filing time as shown in the date line on full-rate telegrams and day letters, and the time of receipt at destination as shown on all messages, is STANDARD TIME.

Received at Flatiron Bldg., New York City.

1934 SEP 17 AM 11 24

NBH257 28=STLOUIS MO 17 1007A

MINUTES IN TRANSIT

FULL-RATE	DAY LETTER
-----------	------------

DR ROBERT E SPEER=

156 FIFTH AVE=

TERRIBLY SORRY TO HEAR OF TRAGIC DEATH OF ELLIOTT MRS LOWE
AND I SEND DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO YOU AND MRS SPEER OUR LOVE
AND PRAYERS ARE WITH YOU=

ARNOLD H LOWE.

CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless it is indicated by a sign above or preceding the address. (48)

WESTERN UNION

R. B. WHITE
PRESIDENT

NEWCOMB CARLTON
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

J. C. WILLEVER
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

SIGNS

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- NL = Night Letter
- LC = Deferred Cable
- NLT = Cable Night Letter
- Ship Radiogram

The filing time as shown in the date line on full-rate telegrams and day letters, and the time of receipt at destination as shown on all messages, is STANDARD TIME.
Received at 40 Broad Street, (Central Cable Office), New York, N. Y. ALWAYS OPENED 16 PM 10 51

1FU268 VIA RCA=F SHANGHAI 8 17 1123

LC INCULCATE= PRESBYTERIAN BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS,
 NYK= 156 FIFTH AVENUE.

MINUTES IN TRANSIT	
FULL-RATE	DAY LETTER

SPEER DEEPEST SYMPATHY LOBENSTINE BEEBE.

RECEIVED
 17 SEP 17 1934
 PRESBYTERIAN FOREIGN BOARD
 TREASURER'S OFFICE



CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable sign above or preceding the address.

WESTERN UNION

R. B. WHITE
PRESIDENT

NEWCOMB CARLTON
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

J. C. WILLEVER
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

SIGNS

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 NM = Night Message
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 LC = Deferred Cable
 NLT = Cable Night Letter
 Ship Radiogram

The filing time as shown in the date line on full-rate telegrams and day letters, and the time of receipt at destination as shown on all messages, is STANDARD TIME.

Received at

NBK78 32 NL 5 EXTRA=PRINCETON NJ 16 VIA METHERMON MASS 17

DR AND MRS ROBERT E SPEER AND FAMILY=

ROCKLEDGE LAKEVILLE CONN=

FULL-RATE	DAY LETTER

SHOCKED BEYOND EXPRESSION BY THE AWFUL TRAGEDY OUR LOVE
 AND SYMPATHY GO OUT TO YOU ALL WE PRAY STRENGTH MAY BE GIVEN
 YOU THROUGH THESE BAFFLING HOURS=

THE BURDETTE LWEIS FAMILY.

320P.



CLASS OF SERVICE

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WESTERN UNION (57)

R. B. WHITE
PRESIDENT

NEWCOMB CARLTON
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

J. C. WILLEVER
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

SIGNS

DL = Day Letter
NM = Night Message
NL = Night Letter
LC = Deferred Cable
NLT = Cable Night Letter
Ship Radiogram

The filing time as shown in the date line on full-rate telegrams and day letters, and the time of receipt at destination as shown on all messages, is STANDARD TIME.

Received at

1934 SEP 18 PM 11 58

JB886 55 NL 4 EXTRA=PORTSMOUTH OHIO 18

DR ROBERT E SPEER=

156 FIFTH AVE NYK=

MINUTES IN TRANSIT	
FULL-RATE	DAY LETTER

THE MEMBERS OF THE PRESBYTERY OF PORTSMOUTH EXPRESS THEIR
PROFOUND DISTRESS AND SYMPATHY WITH YOU UPON THE TRAGIC
DEATH OF ELLIOTT STOP WE WERE ALL SHOCKED AT THE NEWS
STOP WE PRAY THE GOD OF ALL COMFORT OUR FATHER MAY BE YOUR
SUFFICIENT STAY AND STRENGTH STOP YOUR BROTHERS IN CHRIST=
JOHN N LUKENS BY ORDER OF PRESBYTERY.

Sept. 20-1934.

Dear Mr. & Mrs. Speer: — There must
have been literally hundreds &
hundreds of messages of sorrow
& sympathy pouring into your
home this week; but none can
be more sincerely sent than
this brief one from the hearts
of
Emma Traphagen, &
Cora L. Lichty

97

MRS. WALTER LAIDLAW
12 EAST 97TH STREET
NEW YORK CITY

Sept. 18. 1934

Dr. Robert E. Spencer,
24 Gramercy Park

Dear Dr. Spencer;

Mr. Laidlaw and I
were greatly shocked by the swift
calamity that has come to you and
Mrs. Spencer, and by the tender you both
are most prayerful sympathizers.

I have been following with interest
your boy's development of the last

infinite benevolence and power. Whose
evolving purposes embrace all accidents,
caushing them to good.

May this, my word, to your
morning invitation, and comfort you
with that comfort wherein myself am
included of God.

Sincerely yours,

Walter Laidlaw

usefulness of Antiphies, and it is
a mystery to me, as it must be
to you, why he was not permitted
to score them through scores of years,
as seemed so humanly possible, as
did his predecessor.

But - we adequate support
for the calamities of mortal life exists -
we only - an ancient belief that the
progression of our fate, however sad or
disturbed, is ordered by a Being of

57

464 Clinton Avenue
Brooklyn, N. Y.

September 16, 1934

Dear Dr. and Mrs. Spier, -

Four weeks ago today
your son, Elliott, admin-
istered the Sacrament of
Holy Communion in
Sage Chapel. Later, I chok-
ed with him and sent my
love to Margaret, whom
I knew at Jencksing.

I have no words
to 'explain' the tragedy of
Friday. My beloved husband
was wont to say, "In
the land of explanations
we shall understand."

My sympathy goes
warm to you and all
your family group. I write
as one 'acquainted with
grief.'

Faithfully Yours,
Elizabeth Hills Lyman
(Mrs. Albert J. Lyman)

107

7 Gramercy Park.

Dear Dr. Spur:

Every little while my heart goes up in prayer for you in this hour of deep affliction for you and yours.

May the Father of mercies and the God of all comfort comfort.

your heart" and the hearts of
the others dear to you

Yours in deepest sympathy

Clara Lloyd

(India '17)

97

Whitney Point, N. Y.

Sept 19. 1834

My dear Spurr.

Mrs. Laflamme joins me in sincere sympathy for you and Mrs. Spurr in the great bereavement which has befallen you in the killing of Elliott, your son. Only recently I was using in a public address the incident in which when he was a wee lad, he asked out of the terror of the dark "Father is your face toward me?" I have no doubt now that in this hour of darkness the Father's face is toward you.

Your affectionate friend.

H. F. Laflamme

67

139 Montague Street
Brooklyn New York

My dear Doctor and Mrs. Speer,

There are no words to express our feelings of the deepest sorrow and sympathy for you at this time. We can only pray that very special grace and strength may be given, both to yourselves, and the dear family that are left. We do believe that when in the darkest hour the "everlasting arms" will not fail, and my beloved friends we leave you in

his care, because herewith!

Most sincerely

Jamie Jameson

September seventeenth,

P.S.

Our daughter Jewetta wishes to
express her affection and sorrow!

57

New York - September 15, 1934

My dear Dr. Speer: —

The news of the terrible tragedy that has come into your circle seems unbelievable. I wish it were untrue.

This is simply a word to tell you of my sorrow with you and my earnest prayer that the Merciful Father may give comfort and strength to both you and Mrs. Speer. As I have spoken of the telegram here in our Church House everyone is touched with sympathy for you.

The God Whom you have so marvellously served, will be close beside you in this fire of suffering.

Your friend

George C. Huntington

571

436 East 57th St
New York City

My dear friends
What care I
say for weather
and my self in
this year lease of
tragic screw but
that together with
countless others are
prevents and prayers
are with you that
you may be upheld
and given strength

years ago at Hampton
So there is a preserved
element also in this
Snow and are beneath
also for they have young
wife - Let us God be
with you also. —

Faithfully
Bellevue. Johnson

through these terrible
days and that
the whom you know
and the so much
way with beside
you through the
deep waters -

The road same
very long days together
with you see and
his wife same



1545 STATE STREET - NEW ORLEANS

Date Sept. 20 1934

117

Dear Dr. Speer

May the Father your
Lord Jesus Christ, the Father
of mercies, and the God of all
Comfort, Comfort you in
all your tribulation.

The Lord bless you and
Keep you; the Lord make
His face shine upon you
and be gracious unto you.
The Lord lift up His Countenance
upon you and give you peace.
Your friend
J. S. Land

ST. CHARLES AVENUE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

007

115 Hudson Ave.,

Red Bank, N. J.

Sept. 29, 1934.

My dear Dr. Spear,

In spite of feeling the impulse to write you, soon after the shock of reading the sad news of the tragedy which recently came into your home, I hesitated at first, lest our mere letter might only add to the burden of grief which you must bear.

Having, like you lost of-
fensive friends, deeply appreciating
the privilege of knowing and of
working with you for so many
years, it is but natural to feel
the deepest sympathy for you and

to Mrs. Spew. as well as for
the whole family, who have
had to endure such intense
suffering.

I recall that early day
when, as a college student
attending a Northfield conference,
I heard you give a course of
expositions, based on St. John's
Gospel, with their emphasis
upon the divinity, - the deity
of our Lord. I think, again,
of a letter which you wrote
me in which you said you
were reminded of the hymn,
"There's not a friend like
the only Jesus."

May this same only Jesus, -

this same Lord of Lords; - continues
to uphold and strengthen you -
and yours, with the consciousness
of His loving Presence, and
sympathy and guidance, during
these sad days.

I shall not expect you to
acknowledge this letter; for
I know that you will have
far too many letters of this
nature to answer.

With heartfelt sympathy, I am

Your sincere friend,

Mary Scott.

57

FIRST REFORMED CHURCH
REV. J. C. LEONARD, D. D., PASTOR
LEXINGTON, N. C.
STATED CLERK CLASSIS OF NORTH CAROLINA

September 22, 1934.

Dr. Robert E. Speer,
New York City.

Dear Doctor Speer:- Please allow me to extend to you and your family this expression of sincere sympathy in the time of your great distress. Such a tragedy should never be possible. One can not conceive how any one could allow himself to commit so great a sin against a fellowman and against God. But you know the SOURCE of all real help, and to Him you have gone, as have thousands of your friends in your behalf. The blessed WORD gives us the comforting assurance: "As one whom his mother comforteth, so will I comfort you".

Fraternally yours,

J. C. Leonard

Sept. 19, 1914

My dear Dr. Phelps:

Words fail me - but
I want you to know you
are in my mind constant-
ly - and I join in the
many prayers being offered
for you - and yours

Yours most sincerely
Oliver H. Lawrence

55

Mrs Walter S Lee

R. E. Speer

Medellin Colombia,

Oct. 5, 1934.

Dear Dr. Speer:

Our letters from home have brought us the exceedingly sad news of the tragic death of your son Elliot. Words fail us to express to you and Mrs Speer, to Mrs. Elliot Speer, and to all of your family, our deep sympathy in this great bereavement. As a Mission, both collectively and individually, our hearts go out to you in your sorrow, and we

pray that our Heavenly Father
may comfort and sustain you.

Very sincerely yours,
Dora P. Lee.

(Mrs. Walter S.)

Mission Secretary.

ack.

6-D
549 RIVERSIDE DRIVE
NEW YORK, N. Y.

Sunday evening
September 30, 1934

My very dear friend:

I just haven't any words but the unformed ones of the heart's deep recesses for you two precious people in this new and uncharted experience.

There are none better able from life-long closeness to sources of strength and restoration, to call on the help needed to meet these days which must be in-

believably difficult.

Does it also help to know you have the sympathy, almost timidly proffered, and the affection, generously extended to you, of this one of your many friends?

My prayers join those of countless others and my spirit seeks to meet and comfort yours.

Devotedly yours,
Sarah S. Lyon

OLD SMITH ROAD
TENAPLY, NEW JERSEY

57

My dear friends -

There are many, whose
thoughts are forming a mass
of love and prayer about you
these days - May God comfort
and bless you all -

Yours faithfully -

Ellen V. Sanderbaugh.

acts,

MARTHA D. LA PORTE
BIRMINGHAM, HUNTINGDON COUNTY
PENNSYLVANIA

My darling, what can I say to
you but that I love you, love you
and that my thoughts are with you
and Rob my moment?

Martha,

ack.



My dear Mrs Spur: -

The tragic death
of your son was a
great shock to me.

I know how you
must suffer - and
my heart and sympathy
reach out to you, and
to your family -

With love and devotion,

Mary Cindsey

Sept 19th - 1934.

Dodge Hotel

Washington D.C.

ack.

BRAEMAR
TARRYTOWN, NEW YORK

My dear Mrs. Speer.

Just to tell you how very deeply
we sympathize with you in this tragedy
which has come to you.

Most sincerely

Bessie S. Luke

Thursday.
September twentieth

ack,

TORREY CLIFF
PALISADES, ROCKLAND COUNTY
NEW YORK

Saturday.

My dearest Emma,

My love & thoughts
are with you every minute today.

We are all heartbroken over
the tragedy that has come to
you. Tom & Tommy & I, who
have known Elliott since he
was a little boy, & have
watched him grow to a

splendid man, we are
full of sorrow for you &
Rob & are suffering
with you. My dear, my
dear, how I wish I could
help you. But I know

ack.

TORREY CLIFF
PALISADES, ROCKLAND COUNTY
NEW YORK

Saturday.

My dearest Emma,

My love & thoughts
are with you every minute Today.

We are all heart broken over
the tragedy that has come to
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splendid man, we are
full of sorrow for you &
Rob & are suffering
with you. My dear, my
dear, how I wish I could
help you - But I know

ack.



130 Second Avenue

Newark, N. J.

September 18, 1934

My dear Mrs. Speer,

Ever since Elliott
gave me such a
friendly welcome
to Englewood when
he was a ten year
old boy, he has
always had a warm
spot in my heart.

I deeply regret
this tragic close
to his fine useful
life and I wish
to express my
sympathy for
you all.

Sincerely yours,

Mildred Lomas

Oct 2

454 Riverside Drive

September 20

Dear Mrs. Speer,

On our return from Europe yesterday, Laura and I saw in the paper the appalling news of Elliott's death. We both send you and Mr. Speer our sympathy in this great loss, not only to you, but also to American education.

Devotedly yours,
Roger Loomis

ack.

THE DEANERY
BERKELEY DIVINITY SCHOOL
30 MANSFIELD STREET
NEW HAVEN

September 16, 1934.

Dear Mrs. Speer:

My husband and I
send you and Mr. Speer our
deepest, most heartfelt sympathy
in this terrible tragedy. The
world could ill afford to lose
such a good man.

Yours very sincerely
A. T. Ladd.



ack,

Dear Mrs. Speer:

At the staff meeting on Monday we wanted to know first of all if Miss Hirth had heard from you and how you are. She said she had given you our love and told you, what you already knew, - that if there was anything in the world any of us could do, you had only to call on us.

The hearts of us who love you, are
full of grief for you and Dr. Speer
and all of you.

affectionately yours,

Marie L'Homme Dieu

September
19
1934

Ms. A. 1. 1. 1.

Madeny
New Canaan, Connecticut

My dear Mrs. Spier,

My heart goes out to you
and Mr. Spier in your tragedy
and sorrow with deepest love
and deepest sympathy -

! Draw your faith, your
courage, your nobility, all a
part of your very life will
ever sustain you.

Again my heartfelt love
and sympathy -

Truly
Yours

Antoinette S. Lapham

September seventh



ack.

The Inn at Buck Hill Falls
Pennsylvania

My dear Mrs. Speer.

This is just a wee note to let you know I am thinking of you and praying for you, and loving you.

It is hardly believable that such a tragedy should come to such a household as yours.

It is a test of Christian faith. But I am sure the everlasting arms of the Savior are about you and holding you tight, and your comfort and help from Him sufficient.

Cordially

Lillian Lethgower

act. / 680 Madison Avenue

Dearest Mrs. Speer -

Will you accept my
most sincere and heart
felt sympathy - There is
little that I can say to you
at such a time as this but
I have thought of you so
constantly during these
past few days and of all
your sweetness to me and
of your wonderful gentleness

graciousness toward every-
one and I cant help trying
to tell you how I deeply
sorry I am.

Sincerely yours

Geraldine Lawson

September 18th

Aut.

New York Hospital.

107, East 70th Street

My Dearest Emma,

I hope it will
not bother you to have me
write again to tell you
how much I think about
you, + what loving thoughts

I send you. I do not

know where you are or
what you are doing. But
I know wherever you are
you are conscious of God's
love + presence.

I have been here so
long, but hope to go home

the end of next week. Perhaps
you will come & see me
sometimes, because I shan't
be able to go to see you.
There is so much to say
to each other.

With a heart full of
love for you,
Fluencee.

**A
M
L**

ok.

Englewood, New Jersey

Dear Mrs Speer,

May I send
to you all a heartfelt
of love and sympathy?

You had such
beautiful babies and
they have become

such splendid
men and women.
I often love to think
about you all.

Faithfully,
Abigail M. Lane

September, nineteenth,
nineteen hundred,
thirty four.

answ.

THE LAMBERT HOMESTEAD
ROWLEY, MASS.
TEL. ROWLEY 16

My dear Emma & Peter

My heart is full of
most tender sympathy for
you & Dr Speer & for your
children in this great
sorrow that has come to
you — I think of you as
a sturdy ship, the storms
may come & buffet you,
but your unflinching faith
carries you forward & you
meet in a Savior's love
will sustain ^{you} now in this
time of trial — It

will be a better place
because he loves a bit of peace
of it — for that we are grateful

May the Peace that passeth
understanding fill your heart
is the prayer of one who
loves & admires you more
than words can express —

Affectionately yours

Katherine Lambert

Sept 18.

is hard to understand
why one so needed, as
your Elliott, should
not be spared to continue
the work he was doing
so valiantly to respire
in good the growth of
our breed - We do
believe that influence
in right will come on,
& though he is not
permitted to see the
fruits of his well-kept
labor & his devotion to
high ideals, this world

JL

METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH
PITTSBURGH AREA
PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA

RESIDENT BISHOP
ADNA WRIGHT LEONARD

EPISCOPAL HEADQUARTERS
1724 KOPPERS BUILDING

January 5, 1935.

Dr. Robert E. Speer,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York, New York.

My dear Dr. Speer:

For the past several months I have been giving myself so continuously to the administration of the work of the Pittsburgh Area and to some matters in the church-at-large that I find I have failed to keep in touch with some things that have taken place recently. I refer to the tragic death of your son about which I learned only to-day. The death of your son must have taken place while I was in South Dakota, Michigan, and Indiana holding our Conferences.

This is just a line to assure you of my deepest sympathy and of my prayers in the great sorrow through which you and your family are passing.

Pardon me for not writing to you before this but be assured that my heart goes out to you.

Fraternally yours,

aw. Leonard

A
W
L
R

Pasadena, Calif.

Sep. 19th 1934.

Dear Dr. Speer:

We were shocked on noticing, in the Los Angeles Times, the cruel murder of your son at Northfield, Mass.

We most sincerely sympathize with you & Mrs. Speer, in this sore trial, and pray the Lord to bless you and comfort you.

Sincerely yours,

G. A. Landes.

88

89 ROUTE PICHON
SHANGHAI

Sept 18th 1934

My dear Robert & Mrs Speer:

Susan and I, and your many friends here were deeply shocked on Sunday morning when Josephine Welles informed us of the sad news received by cable during the night. We were stunned by it as if it had been a member of our own family who had been shot. We cannot imagine how it could have come except as an act of some one mentally deranged. We need not assure you of our deep sympathy with you, and of our prayers, for you know that you have both in full measure. Elliott's death will be a very great loss to the Mt Hermon and Northfield schools, which he has served with such ability and devotion. His place will be hard to fill.

Susan joins me in sending our affectionate greetings to you both,

Yours very sincerely
Ed Lobenstein

THE NATIONAL CHRISTIAN COUNCIL OF CHINA

169 Yuen Ming Yuen Road
SHANGHAI, CHINA

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*Names starred constitute the Ad Interim Committee

September 20, 1934

Dr. Robert E. Speer,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York City.

My dear Dr. Speer:

I write on behalf of the National Christian Council to express to you and to Mrs. Speer the Council's very deep sympathy with you in the great loss you have sustained through the untimely death of your son. At a meeting of the Ad Interim Committee of the Council, held yesterday, a resolution of sympathy was passed. The members of the Committee rose and engaged in silent prayer on your behalf.

I have been asked to transmit this information to you.

Yours very sincerely,

Edwin C. Lobenstine

Associate General Secretary.

ECL:RM

57
First Presbyterian Church

SAMUEL MARTIN GIBSON, D. D., MINISTER

NINTH AND ROBINSON STREETS

Oklahoma City, Okla.

September twentieth,
Nineteen- thirty four.

Dr. Robert E. Speer,
156 Fifth Ave.
New York City, N. Y.

Dear Dr. Speer:-

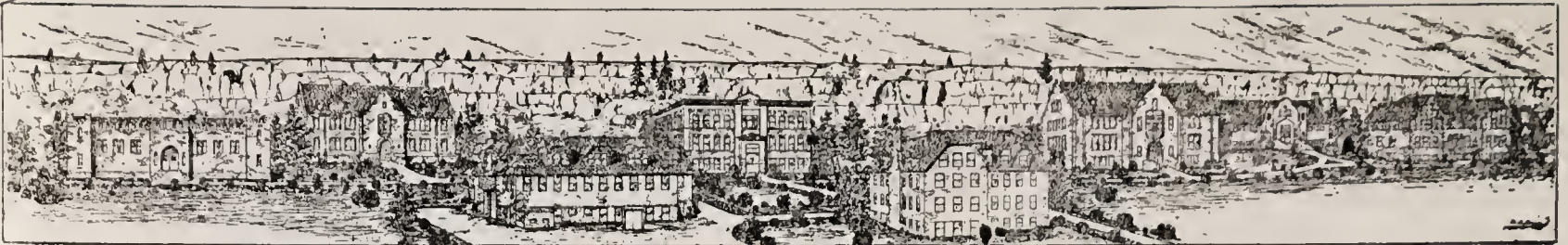
Our heartsaches for you and Mrs. Speer and all of your family in the tragic sorrow that has come to you. The one comfort in such a grief, is the feeling that in the mystery of the suffering, is the mystery of the love of our God. Things that cannot be explained throw us back into the everlasting arms. We pray that in this- perhaps the severest of all trials you have ever known- you may have the sweetest comfort you have ever known. I have found these two going together in my own experience. The Beatitude- "Blessed are they that mourn, for they shall be comforted", is literally and profoundly true.

Mrs. Luccock joins me in affectionate sympathy.

Yours sincerely,

Geo N Luccock

GNL--IKG



BILLINGS POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE

"The School of the Open Door"

POLYTECHNIC, MONTANA

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

September 17, 1934

Dr. Robert Speer
Fifth Avenue,
New York City

My dear Friend Speer:

I was shocked when I heard of that cowardly assassination of your son at Northfield. I did not know what I could say and yet I must say something to express my abhorrence for such a thing. Of course you know of my interest in Mr. Moody and the Northfield work. Please accept my sincere condolences for this terrible thing. I think it would be entirely justifiable if lynch law were used if they could get hold of the perpetrator.

I often think of you and the Presbyterians there. I have been in the hospital most of the time for six months, owing to an accident on Easter Sunday last. I am gaining very slowly, yet I am gaining.

We have a wonderful school out here and I wish you could come out some time.

Please bear to the bereaved family of your son my sincerest sympathy; and you know how I feel towards you.

Cordially yours,

W. E. Lougee

643

FRANK J. LOESCH
1540 OTIS BUILDING
CHICAGO

October
Fourth
Nineteen Thirty Four

Dr. Robert E. Speer, D. D.,
24 Gramercy Park,
New York City, New York.

Dear Dr. Speer:

It is impossible to express our feelings over the murder of your beloved son some weeks ago, and Mrs. Browning, my wife, and I feel the deepest sympathy for you in this terrible taking away of your son, for what appears on the surface, for no conceivable motive except a motive in some insane mind, and that seems out of the question; or, that of some devilish enemy moved by one knows not what motives.

Mrs. Browning has been very slowly recovering from her long illness and we are hopeful of bringing her back from Cooperstown within the next four weeks. Mrs. Loesch has very little time to write and I was waiting from day to day for some development which will throw light on this dreadful crime.

I hope the law-enforcing officers of Northfield will put some one officer at work, who has the capability and the pertinacity to follow every clue pointing to some indication of the murderer. It is one of those crimes which should not remain unsolved, and I am satisfied from my experience, that given the man, or better, two men, to put on the job and kept at it, with only enough diversion to break the strain of constant thought on one thing, that the criminal will be uncovered.

In the meantime be assured that Mrs. Browning, my wife and I are feeling for you, that you and your son's family are in our prayers, and that those prayers not only include helping yourselves, but wisdom and understanding to those who are engaged in the pursuit of the murderer.

We all send love to you and to your family.

Sincerely yours,

Frank J. Loesch

5:DH

513
ELMIRA COLLEGE
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
ELMIRA, NEW YORK

October 6 1934

Dr. Robert E. Speer
New York

My dear Dr. Speer. May I say to you that the recent tragedy which befel you ^{has} kept you much in my thoughts and in my prayers. I am only one of the multitude, scarcely known to you, of those who love you and admire you, and who sympathize deeply with you in this your sorrow. Of course our Father knows all about it, how and why; He suffered a deadly attack on His Son. You can understand, and perhaps enter into a more complete fellowship of His sufferings. We who are only spectators have so little to tell you, apart from the fact of our sympathy! May the heavenly Father give you a deeply satisfying certainty of His love!

Sincerely yours

Frederick Lent

113

Published by
the
Board of Trustees



Westminster Hall

Printed by
J. M. LEAVY
1827 E. St.

1827 E. St.
LINCOLN, NEBR.

My dear Robert:

My mind has followed you and my heart, ^{especially} has been with you ever since I read of the sudden and strange thing that came to your well beloved son, Elliott.

I hasten to send this smile messenger of sympathy and love, to you, my dear friend. Oh may the Lord of life support you all the day long and abide with you by night and day to help you trace his perfect will.

With kind remembrances. I am very

Dear Robert, Affectionately yours,

Tracy

513

Tioga Presbyterian Church

Tioga and Sixteenth Streets

Philadelphia, Pa.

Sept 18/34

Dear Dr. Speer.

Now that the flood tide of messages of consolation has been reached and the currents of life are running silently and the heart of your unspoken sorrow presses in upon you, let me say as joined sorrowing with joined, my heart has been with you & yours in this unexplainable providence of God.

In this your tragic suffering I can only say in the words of another God has his mysteries of grace, ways which we cannot fathom. He hides them deep in the hidden sleep of Him He loved so well. In the tragic suffering of our Lord Jesus Christ light and hope were born and infinite love was manifested. To you who have so seen and experienced that love there is no doubt of it now though the tragic purpose may be hidden throughout time. To you his voice still whispers "My grace is sufficient for you."

Mrs. Littell joins me in deepest sympathy for you and Mrs. Speer and the sorrowing children.
Affectionately, Robert R. Littell.

673

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Louisville, Kentucky,
September 17, 1934

Dr. Robert E. Speer,
New York City.

Dear Dr. Speer:

I am distressed to learn of the death of your son.

This was surely a most tragic end to such a young promising life. The whole world sympathizes with you, your wife and his wife and children.

He was so well prepared for a great life work. Everyone is shocked that it should be cut short in such a manner. God permits such deeds but He and we feel both indignation and pity for the perpetrator.

As I once heard Moody say, heaven is nearer and dearer because of those who have gone before. May this thought comfort you somewhat.

Praying for our Father's richest blessings upon you in this great bereavement, I am

Your friend,
William E. Lampe

014

18 West 25th St
New York

September 18, 1934

Dear Dr. Speer:

I wish to express to you and Mrs. Speer my deepest sympathy in the tragic death of your beloved son.

Many Assyrians share with you in your great loss.

May the Lord give you strength and comfort you at this time.

~~Yours truly,~~
Faithfully yours,

Geo M. Lamsa

George M. Lamsa

574

Davidson College
Davidson, N. C.

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

September 16, 1934

My dear Dr. Speer,

My heart has been very much with you and Mrs. Speer and all the loved ones ever since I saw the Associated Press dispatch telling of the tragic death of your son. I saw something of him when I was at Northfield a few years ago and he impressed me as being an unusually fine man. I know that your hearts must have rejoiced in him. The deed must have been done by some wild maniac. In this hour of sorrow and distress I pray that our heavenly Father may speak words of peace and love and power to your hearts. I am sure that his grace is going to be sufficient for you.

Very faithfully yours,
Walter L. Single

674
UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA
DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY AND RELIGION
UNIVERSITY, ALABAMA

Sept 16 1934

Dr. Robert E. Speer,
New York City,
New York.

My dear Dr. Speer: I read in last night's paper with very deepest regret and sorrow of the loss of your son.

I know that to you with great sorrow comes also great comfort in the assurances you have so long trusted; and these assurances will not now fail you. And it is something also to know that throughout our country thousands will sorrow with you because of the great ministry of comfort you have brought to others.

Yet in the crisis of tragedy there is a kind of loneliness imposed on us; perhaps all the more lonely because in such crisis we come nearer to the moment when the human and the divine are in most certain conjunction. So I, with all your other friends, would, if I may, come near to you that as far as possible I may help you to feel the companionship which, may it do no more, touches you into a knowledge that even in sorrow you are not alone. Yet a far greater hand reaches out to you to give you comfort, whose companionship gives us a common discipleship. We are not as those who are without hope.

May all blessings attend you in your ministry of love and truth.

Very cordially,

George Lang
George Lang.

514

Board of National Missions
of the Presbyterian Church in the
United States of America

156 Fifth Avenue, New York, N. Y.

September 19/34

My beloved friend:

There is little that I can
say - You know my heart. In your
great loss there is One who ever
abides and who will bring us
together again in the life eternal
and blessed. Thank God for our
Christ.

Mrs. Linnartz joins me in
love & sympathy to you all. I
held you dear from as a friend.

Sincerely yours
Arthur H. Linnartz

ms

Lincoln University

LINCOLN UNIVERSITY
CHESTER COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SCIENCE

September 23, 1934.

My Dear Speer:-

All this week Mother Fleming, Mary and I have spoken and thought of you folks continually. We sent our telegram of sympathy a week ago, but we have not written because we felt that you all would have so much on your hearts and minds that you would not have any time for reading letters. I do not know that it will be any better now; but I cannot wait any longer without expressing any more of the loving sympathy we feel than can be expressed in a brief telegram.

All that we can do for you dear people who have stood by us in our sorrows in the past, and who have been such a source of comfort and strength ~~and~~ to us and to many many others, is to give you back a little of the love that you have so abundantly shown us in the past. One is simply appalled that such a blow should have fallen on a circle none of whose members have ever willingly done a harm to others and whose whole attitude toward others has always been one of helpfulness. And the whole thing is so inexplicable that ones confidence in the wise and tender ordering of a Heavenly Father would be shaken were it not for the faith that goes deeper than the seeming logic of such events, and were it not for that which that same fatherly love permitted to come to his own dear Son. And so we want to assure you that you have all that we can give you and that is our loving sympathy and prayers. It is hard for you and your good wife, but hardest of all to the young mother and little folks. God bless them and keep them throughout the coming years. Mary is writing Mrs. Speer her own words of affection. Mother Fleming joins with us in these expressions. Her own big motherly heart and her keen interest in all her friends makes her feel this blow to you dear people with terrible force.

I want to say just another word. During the past months when the Board, and more particularly you, have been the object of the meanest and most unchristian attacks from supposedly christian people, I have often thanked the Lord ~~thx~~ for the courage and christian character and quiet dignity that you have shown through it all. I have never had the opportunity of saying this to you before. I do so now.

Yours affectionately

Robert M. Labaree

57

William C. Laube
1005 Lincoln Ave.
Dubuque, Iowa

September 22, 1934.

Dr. Robert E. Speer,
156 Fifth Ave.,
New York, N.Y.

My dear brother:- Words fail me to express the shock I received at the terrible tragedy which has befallen your family. I know you are strong and brave and will bear this blow as a good soldier of Jesus Christ, but I want you to know that with multitudes of others my heart goes out to you and Mrs. Speer and to the rest of the family in sincere Christian sympathy and prayer for God's sustaining grace.

What a dark deed and what motive could there be...How sad that such a useful life as that of your lamented son should so suddenly be snatched away by the hand of an assassin...How awful for his dear ones, for you all. May God comfort everyone with His Fatherly comfort and give strength for this ordeal.

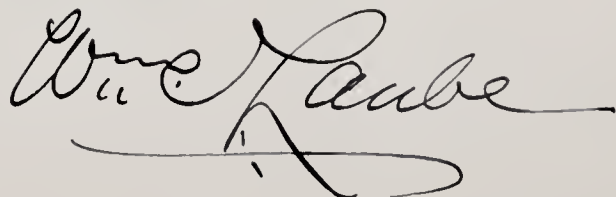
And must we not think of that other life, that misguided wretch whoever he was, as more to be pitied? How sad that a human heart should conceive such dark deeds, what a depth of either mental or moral depravity or both... God be merciful to him also and bring to light what now is hidden in darkness and put His love into the hearts which now are sullen and bitter.

O how this sin-sick world needs the eternal Gospel. How every other attempt has failed. In Christ is our only hope. What a joy to you, dear Dr. Speer, that for so many years you have been used of God so wonderfully in the spread of this Gospel in all the world. Let nothing discourage you, God is with you and with your work and you are known by your fruits and God has put the seal of approval on your faithful labors.

You have been so brave and true under the bitter and unfair attacks made upon you from misguided brethren. You will now be brave and true under this deep sorrow, and while the cup is very bitter, there is also a drop of sweetness in the very dregs as Judson of Burmah found and as all of us have found who have entered the sacred and secret fellowship of sufferers.

God protect, sustain and comfort you and all your loved ones and give new strength for the new day.

Faithfully in His name,



54
"Carlisle"
Mount Gilead
N.C.
Sep.17

Dear Robert:-

The terrible tidings came to us by today's paper. Our hearts go out in tenderest sympathy to you and Mrs. Speer and your family circle. How I long to go to you and tell you of my sympathy and love!

The mystery of the awful tragedy and the motive back of it is only eclipsed by the mystery of the divine providence that permitted it. Why? We are forced to say - in love. Inexplicable - but

"I have loved thee with an everlasting love: therefore with lovingkindness have I drawn thee."

"God nothing does, nor suffers to be done
But thou, thyself, wouldst do, if thou couldst see
The end of all events as well as He."

"He never smiled so sweet before
Save on the sea of sorrows, when the night
Was saddest on our heart. We followed Him
At other times in sunshine. Summer days
And moonlight nights He led us over paths
Bordered with pleasant flowers: but when His steps
Were on the mighty waters, when we went
With trembling hearts through nights of pain and loss
His smile was sweeter and His love more dear;
And only Heaven is better than to walk
With Christ at midnight over moonless seas."

Many times have I recalled the delightful narrative you gave us at Montreat of the sacrificial prayer Elliott made on the eve of going to spend some of his savings at a bazaar. I did not have the joy of knowing him in the flesh but it will be sweet to meet him in the "Father's House."

My wife unites with me in tender sympathy for you and your loved ones.

May His peace passing all understanding abound to all of you!

Please pardon the use of type.
A tremor of my hand makes this
necessary.

L

Devotedly,

Lacy

514
AMERICAN BAPTIST FOREIGN MISSION SOCIETY
152 MADISON AVENUE
NEW YORK

September 17, 1934

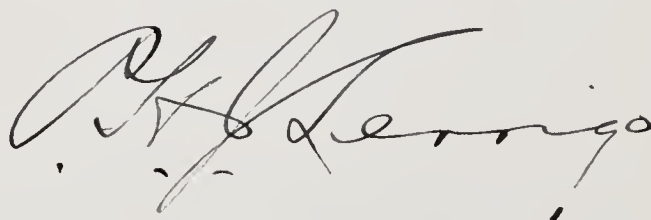
My dear Dr. Speer:

It is hard to know quite what to say to you in the face of the terrible tragedy at Northfield of which we have just received the news. We have only had the briefest account of what took place, but I felt at once that I must write you a few words to assure you of my deepest and most affectionate sympathy and to say likewise that I am praying that the Master may especially support you and yours through the suffering of these terrible hours.

We are living in a distraught world and trouble of one kind or another seems to fall upon every life. Were it not for our confidence in a loving Heavenly Father life would become almost impossible. But we have the assurance that He is with us and that He knows all the circumstances and can bring comfort, support and relief to the human heart. May He grant these blessings to you in full measure.

With cordial regards, I am

Very sincerely yours,



Dr. Robert E. Speer,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York, N. Y.

57

West Presbyterian Church

5872 MAPLE AVENUE

ST. LOUIS, MO.

REV. WILLIAM B. LAMPE, D.D.

PASTOR

"In the Community to do Good"

Sept. 17th. 1934

Dr. Robert E. Speer

New York City, N. Y.

My dear Dr. Speer:-

Words are utterly inadequate to express the sympathy that goes from our hearts to you, and your family in the tragic death of your son. My sermon last night dealt with the text, "Neither hath this man sinned, nor his parents; but that the works of God should be made manifest in him." I could not but wonder whether this tragedy could be the means again of manifesting the "works of God."

This past summer I preached at Lake Geneva, on the same platform from which I heard you speak just thirty years ago on the theme, "Prevailing Prayer." I want you to know that Mrs. Lampe and I are praying that the Master of us all may sustain, and strengthen you. I hope that His comfort and peace will be sufficient for every need. You know how we love you, and how all of the church loves you. We will not forget you in these days.

ever yours, in the Master's service,

William B. Lampe.

698

Sept 6.

My dear brother: When I heard,
my dear sister was so much pleased
by you & than for asking Him
to keep you content. But I
did this very thing when I was
to offer the Sacrament - & He had
you & gave you His peace.

I would not obstruct. But when
it is done it is well to know that
one's fellow servant is near at
hand. Let this be for a token.

The brightness of His glory
will make you a new light.

His consolations will make
you my companions. His Peace -

Yours truly
D. Smith

Ans 69

143 Euell Ave.
Wooster, Ohio

Sept. 18, 1934

Dear Dr. Spear:

We are all shocked and deeply moved by the dastardly deed that brought such a one as your son to such a tragic end. We know what a blow this is to yourself, and we want to bear some small share of this sorrow with you. Again and again we have known your big heart to be moved with the pains of some of those in the large missionary family who have been brought low with grief and trouble. I hope and pray that now, in this your hour of sorrow, the real sympathy of many of us all round the world may be used of God to help you through.

You have lost a physical son, but the countless spiritual sons and daughters far and wide cannot be taken away. And, praise the Lord, he whose mortal body has been so cruelly crushed, is among them.

We are praying for you. May God give you strength of body, as He will of mind and heart, to bear the strain.

Mrs. Lyon joins me in this effort to express our sympathy that words can so poorly convey, to Mrs. Spear and yourself.

With sincere devotion,

Yours cordially,

William H. Lyon

80

6135 GREENE STREET
GERMANTOWN, PHILADELPHIA

Apr. 19, 1934

Dear Dr. Spurr.

Our hearts are bowed with
grief these days - bowed in deep
sorrow and also in the anguish of
faith. We cannot speak and you
would not want us to. But we
can pray, sharing your own vic-
torious trust and hope - and we
are. Yesterday Presbyterian friends
in its busy session to pray for
you all.

They know that you are all in
our hearts, but better still know
that you are God's.

With the devoted sympathy of
your good friends

John Henry & Elizabeth Park Lee

ack. W.P.H.

September 25

PRESIDENT'S HOUSE

Dear Mrs. Seer.

All the comforting thoughts that have been sent to you from the Great West have been to you and

Dr. Seer and your daughter Mrs. Seer. We truly sympathize at this tragic time; but you know

too without my telling you,
that we have been praying
for you without ceasing and
you have been in our hearts
and minds constantly -

All of us who had the
privilege of knowing that
radiant love of yours are far
richer for the experience.

May you and Dr. Coles receive
in help and comfort from your
friends some of the richness
of his spiritual blessings that
you with readiness of so
generously \rightarrow them -

Mr. Davis joins me in
tender sympathy to you both
Sincerely yours Ruth Anne Davis

678
Trinity Presbyterian Church

South Orange, N. J.

REV. VICTOR HERBERT LUKENS, PASTOR
20 GROVE ROAD

Sept. 19, 1934

Dear Mr. Spear,

My heart is full of sympathy for you and for Mr. Welles also, for I have known both of you as friends for a great many years. His heart is full of grief for his daughter's loss and he will seek to comfort her; yours is made sad by this sudden - invasion of the wickedness of men. We never know when we shall be forced personally to endure the misdeeds of spiteful men.

If you will convey my kindest regards to Mr. and Mrs. Welles I will be very much obliged to you.

You have the body of your son. When the oldest son of my brother Lew, whom you used to know in Elizabeth when you both lived there, was killed in the great war, one of the hardest matters to endure was that he was bereft of Alan's body. It was strange how when he went to France a year or two after the war and saw Alan's grave among other soldiers' graves, he seemed to feel that the emptiness of his heart was somehow partly filled up. Perhaps the knowledge that you have had your son's body will keep your heart from feeling as empty as Lew's did.

Very truly your friend,

V. H. Lukens.

618

The Hartford Seminary Foundation
Hartford, Connecticut

Sunday Evening
Sept 16/31

My dear Robert:

All day yesterday & in the nights when we awaked, we have thought of you and Mrs Speer as, so suddenly, you faced this new and inexplicable experience. Will we know that you went at once to The great Source of Comfort, which is your life-long habit. But it must add a bit to your strength and courage to know that your friends carry you both in our hearts during these trying days. We must not, we need not, write at length, for hundreds perhaps thousands of letters, telegrams and cables will come to you from almost every land in the world. We just wanted to assure you that Mrs Luce and I unite with this host of friends in loving and prayerful remembrance. In the best of love Harry Whipple.

018

BRANCH - NASHVILLE



CABLE "LIBERATE"

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE UNITED STATES

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE — OF — FOREIGN MISSIONS



113 SIXTEENTH AVE S

POST OFFICE BOX 330
NASHVILLE, TENN.

EDWARD D. GRANT
SECRETARY OF EDUCATION AND PROMOTION

September 24, 1934

Dr. Robert E. Speer,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York City.

My dear Dr. Speer,

The distressing news regarding your son's accident has brought grief to your friends everywhere, and I wish, along with your multitude of friends around the world, to express to you my sincere sorrow and sympathy.

While the works of God are past understanding, His love is unfathomable, and I am sure you have found in these trying days a new interpretation to the phrase "the comfort of the Holy Spirit."

Very sincerely your friend,

EDG/D

W/S

NORMAL PARK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
YALE AVENUE AT SEVENTY-FIRST STREET
CHICAGO

REV. CLIFFORD LITTELL LE DUC, M. A.
MINISTER
MANSE: 7111 YALE AVENUE
PHONE RADCLIFFE 8424

LOLETA BAKKE
MINISTER'S SECRETARY
CHURCH OFFICE
PHONE STEWART 4079

Dr Robert E Speer
156 - 5th Ave
N.Y. City.

Sept 21-1934

Dear Dr Speer: —

With tens of thousands
of your friends I assure you
of my deep and sincere
sympathy in this time of
your sorrow occasioned
by the tragedy which has come
to your son Elliot.

The whole Church, I believe,
is praying for you.

Very cordially,

Clifford Littell Le Duc

678

JOHN LITTLE
314 S. HANCOCK STREET
LOUISVILLE, KY.

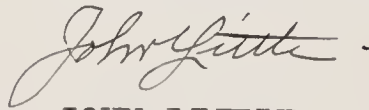
Sept. 15, 1934.

Dr. Robert E. Spear,
Board of National Missions,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Dr. Spear:

Our hearts go out to you in deepest sympathy. We remembered you at the Throne of Grace this morning in our family devotions.

Fraternally yours,



JOHN LITTLE.

JL:EL

678

240 S. Oakland Ave
Pasadena

California

Sept. 15th 1934

My dear Dr. Spurr:

I saw in the "Los Angeles Times"

this morning that your son
Elliott had been killed in

Northfield, Mass. Mr. Lingle and

I wish to extend to you & Mrs. Spurr

our very deepest sympathy. Words

cannot express our feelings in

view of this shocking tragedy

but we want you to know

that our hearts go out to you

at this time & we pray for

you. We also remember Margaret

in Peiping. It will be hard

for her to receive the shocking

news. Yours most sincerely

J. P. Lingle

MA
Ry 23.

THE LOUDEN MACHINERY COMPANY
FAIRFIELD, IOWA

R. B. LOUDEN
PRESIDENT

Sept. 17-1934

My Dear Cousin Robert:-

As we read of the tragic passing of your boy, Elliott our love and sympathy went out to you

We have just passed through a great sorrow from the passing away of our dear wife and mother, - but how wonderful it is to have the sustaining infinite to lean on when sorrow seems to engulf you. We know that you will be ^{comforted} and helped as we have been.

"The eternal God is thy refuge and underneath is the everlasting arms"

Our love to you and Dear Mrs Spear and to the sorrowing family.

Your Cousin

R B Louden

Robert B Louden

Sept 14/34

527 Riverside Drive

Ans
Sept 14.

Dear Robert

I am not supposed to be writing letters in these days but who could forbear saying a word to you at such a time as this - and yet one does not know what to say - it is so terrible. It came so strangely one cannot even now believe it true - it seems as though it was a sort of rapture from which one must waken.

I can only commend you to the sustaining care of Him you and I have known to trust so well. This will be a supreme test for us all - father, mother - wife and children - friends. You are rich in friendships and they will stand you in good stead at this time

Yours cordially

Fredrich Lusk.